

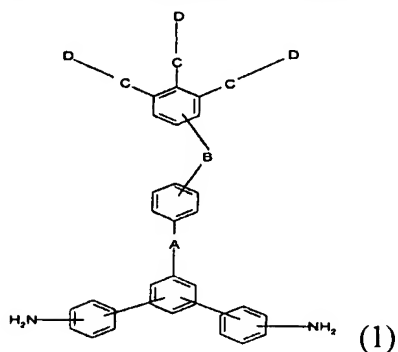
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

【Claim 1】 (Original)

A diamine compound represented by Formula 1 below:



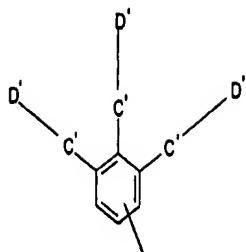
wherein

A is a single bond, -O-, -COO-, -CONH-, or -OCO-;

B is a single bond, -O-, -COO-, -CONH-, or -OCO-;

the substituents C are independently a single bond, -O-, -COO-, -CONH-, or -OCO-; and

the substituents D are independently a C₁₋₂₀ linear, branched or cyclic alkyl group which may be substituted with at least one halogen atom, or a functional group represented by Formula 2 below:



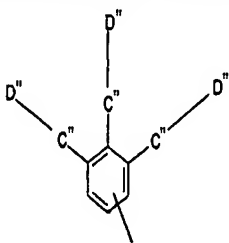
(2)

wherein the substituents C' are independently -O-, -COO-, -CONH-, or -OCO-;

and

the substituents D' are independently a C₁₋₂₀ linear, branched or cyclic alkyl

group, or a functional group represented by Formula 3 below:



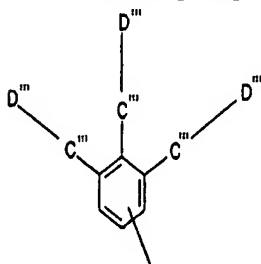
(3)

wherein the substituents C'' are independently -O-, -COO-, -CONH-, or -OCO-;

and

the substituents D'' are independently a C₁₋₂₀ linear, branched or cyclic alkyl

group, or a functional group represented by Formula 4 below:



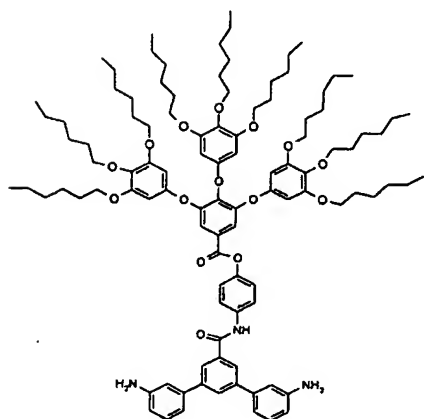
(4)

and

【Claim 2】 (Original)

The chemical structure shows a central tris(4-aminophenyl)methyl group. This core is linked via an amide bond to a 4-phenoxybenzoate moiety. The phenyl ring of this moiety is further substituted with three long, branched alkyl chains (approximately 15-16 carbons each) through an ester linkage. The entire molecule is symmetrical and features a high density of alkyl chains, characteristic of a dendritic or macrocyclic structure.

(5)



(6)

【Claim 3】 (Original) A polyamic acid prepared by copolymerizing the diamine compound according to claim 1, an alicyclic dianhydride, an aromatic cyclic dianhydride, and optionally, an aromatic cyclic diamine and/or a siloxane-based diamine.

【Claim 4】 (Currently Amended) The polyamic acid ~~according to claim 3~~ prepared by copolymerizing the diamine compound, an alicyclic dianhydride, an aromatic cyclic dianhydride, and optionally, an aromatic cyclic diamine and/or a siloxane-based diamine, wherein the diamine compound according to claim 1 is present in an amount of 0.1~100 mole%, and the aromatic cyclic diamine and the siloxane-based diamine are present in an amount of 0~99.9 mole%, based on the total amount of the diamine monomers.

【Claim 5】 (Original) The polyamic acid according to claim 3, wherein the aromatic cyclic dianhydride is present in an amount of 10~95 mole%, and the alicyclic dianhydride is present in an amount of 5~90 mole%, based on the total amount of the dianhydride monomers.

【Claim 6】 (Original) The polyamic acid according to claim 3, wherein the polyamic acid has a number-average molecular weight of 10,000 to 500,000 g/mol.

【Claim 7】 (Original) A soluble polyimide prepared by wholly or partially imidizing the polyamic acid according to claim 3.

【Claim 8】 (Currently Amended) A mixture of the polyamic acid ~~according to claim 3~~ prepared by copolymerizing the diamine compound, an alicyclic dianhydride, an aromatic cyclic dianhydride, and optionally, an aromatic cyclic diamine and/or a siloxane-based diamine and the soluble polyimide according to claim 7.

【Claim 9】 (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal alignment film produced by dissolving the polyamic acid ~~according to claim 3~~ prepared by copolymerizing the diamine compound, an alicyclic dianhydride, an aromatic cyclic dianhydride, and optionally, an aromatic cyclic diamine and/or a siloxane-based diamine, the soluble polyimide ~~according to claim 7~~ prepared by wholly or partially imidizing the polyamic acid, or the mixture according to claim 8 in a solvent, coating the solution on a substrate, and wholly or partially imidizing the coated solution.

【Claim 10】 (Original) A liquid crystal display device comprising the liquid crystal alignment film according to claim 9.